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Promotion and protection of human rights: human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Seventy-first year

Identical letters dated 12 October 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Jordan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, and with reference to the repeated letters from the representative of the Syrian regime, the latest of which is dated 29 September 2016 (S/2016/823), I should like to state the following:

The Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan stands by all of the letters of response that it has addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council.

It absolutely and categorically rejects the futile and deceptive accusations that the representative of the Syrian regime persists in inventing. Nobody is fooled by this repugnant and monotonous farrago of lies and delusions, whose purpose is to cover up his regime's failure to reach a political solution to the crisis in Syria, not to mention its ongoing crimes: the regime is bombarding Syrian civilians, denying them their most basic human rights, besieging them and starving them without pity.

The representative of the Syrian regime ought rather to address the extensive destruction, killings and forced displacement to which Syria and its people have fallen victim. He should consider the tragic humanitarian situation in Syrian cities, particularly Aleppo. He should ponder the need for the regime to allow humanitarian assistance convoys to enter the cities that it has cruelly besieged, and to refrain from targeting medical facilities and staff. Instead, he continues to spout manipulative and futile accusations in a shameful endeavour to distract the Security Council. He has waged a campaign of abuse against Jordan, a country whose leaders, Government and people have opened their hearts, as well as their homes, to their Syrian brethren fleeing disaster. We have shared our limited resources with

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them, and we have not stopped providing them with essential services, despite the economic and financial burden that such work entails. In that connection, I wish to reiterate Jordan's consistent position of rejecting terrorism and extremism in all their forms, whatever their motivation. Jordan is fully committed to implementing the counter-terrorism resolutions of the Security Council.

The Government of Jordan once again stresses that it is prepared to participate in any international efforts aimed at reaching a political solution in Syria that would preserve the country's unity and stability. At the current stage, such a solution must be the priority in order to protect Syrian civilians, secure the situation in Syria and prevent its deterioration into a humanitarian disaster that would destabilize the region and endanger international peace and security.

By persisting in his campaigns of propaganda and demagoguery, the representative of the Syrian regime merely proves that neither he nor it have any concern for the lives of innocent Syrian civilians. Instead, he ought to focus on how to support international efforts to reach a political solution in Syria with a view to sparing its people's lives, establishing a ceasefire and allowing humanitarian assistance to reach the Syrian hinterland.

We call on the Security Council to press the Syrian regime to comply with its commitments under international humanitarian law, respect the principles of neighbourly relations, refrain from levelling accusations at Member States, and implement all of its resolutions on Syria, as well as the resolutions of the General Assembly, the provisions of international law and human rights principles.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 68 (c) and 108, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Sima **Bahous**
Permanent Representative